(b) whether Government are aware that none of the workers of such closed mills were entitled/given any of the such benefits; and

(c) if so, the justification for this apathy towards these workers and the steps taken by Government to implement this scheme in a proper perspective?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (c) Since its inception, benefits under the Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme have been extended by the Government to mills in the private sector only.

Objectives of Textile Workers' Relief Fund

3192. SHRI RAMJI LAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) when was the Textile Workers' Relief Fund set up and what are the objectives thereof; and

(b) the categories of mills and textile workers of Public and Private Sector eligible for getting relief from this fund as per the provisions made in the scheme for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS) came into operation w.e.f. 15.9.1986. The objective of TWRFS is to provide interim relief to workers rendered jobless as a consequence of permanent closure of units. As per the TWRFS, a closed textile unit means a unit—

(i) that is licensed or registered under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 or with the Textile Commissioner as a medium scale unit on the date of the closure;

(ii) that has obtained the requisite permission for closure from the appropriate State Government under Section 25(O) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 or the assets of which have been taken over by Official Liquidator appointed under the Companies Act.

(iii) that was closed down on or after 6th June, 1985.

Moreover, a worker should have been engaged in a closed textile unit on the date of its closure continuously for five years or more, have been earning a wage equivalent of Rs. 2500 per month or less and have been on the records of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner of the State concerned. Since April, 1992, the TWRFS has also been made applicable to the cases of mills of partial closure on a case to case basis. The cases of partial closure are restricted to cases wherein the State Governments recommend that an entire uneconomic activity (like weaving or processing) is scrapped as a part of rehabilitation package for a sick/weak mill (as per the RBI definition) approved by Nodal Agency/BIFR, provided the scrapped capacity is surrendered for cancellation and endorsement is made on the licence/ registration certificate to this effect. Since its inception, the benefits under the TWRFS have been extended to the mills in the private sector only.

मुरादाबाद में पीतल उद्योग

3193. **श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी:** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश का मुरादाबाद शहर पीतल के सामान पर नक्काशी करने के लिए प्रसिद्ध है और पीतल के इन सामानों के निर्यात से भारी विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित की जाती है;

(ख) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने अक्तूबर 1995 में वहां अवसंरचनात्मक सुविधाओं को उन्नत करने हेतु कोई प्रस्ताव भेजा था; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार इस प्रस्ताव को कब तक मंजूरी दे देगी और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री काशीराम राणा): (क) जी हां।